

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
@Memorial Library Community Room

OCTOBER 1, 2009
7:00p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by First Selectman Janet M. McCarty. Also present were Stephen A. Fontana, Second Selectman and Michael J. Freda, Third Selectman.

At this time, there were no public comments relative to the agenda.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of September 3, 2009.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty read an e-mail dated September 16, 2009 from Judy Amarone noting that the Commission on Aging voted and approved adding a public comment session to the agenda.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to accept the resignation of John A. Gilchrist (R), 18 Grandview Terrace, from the Inland Wetlands Commission, as an alternate, term to expire 12-31-09

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to appoint Julia Pohoda (R), 27 Sackett Point Road, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6-30-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Sarah Baird, 165 Tokeneke Road, to the Clean Energy Task Force

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to approve the following property tax refunds:

Ari Fleet LT, 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054, in the amount of \$181.28

Atlantic Masonry, 67 Quinnipiac Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$623.19, and in the amount of \$352.60, and in the amount of \$305.27, and in the amount of \$232.22

Kari Baransky, 53 Fairlawn Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$15.62

Barnes & Noble #1897, c/o Intl Appraisal Co., 110 Pleasant Avenue, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458, in the amount of \$262.53, and in the amount of \$104.71

Richard Chapman, 370 Upper State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$64.10, and in the amount of \$59.22

Chase Auto Finance Corp, 900 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530, in the amount of \$102.61

Denise A. Damato, 170 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$28.17

DCFS Trust, Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$1,034.46

DCFS Trust, 2050 Roanoke Road, West Lake, TX 76262, in the amount of \$59.47, and in the amount of \$82.65, and in the amount of \$99.09

Noreen Donofrio, 32 St. John Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$15.73

Marie T. Falsey, 4 Windsor Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$27.40

Robert E. Farley, 201 Maple Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$12.00

Leonard L. & Barbara R. Gallo & Surv, 7 Rance Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$96.52, and in the amount of \$86.10, and in the amount of \$76.32, and in the amount of \$70.50

Raymond James & Jean Edna Gambardella (Trustees), 135 Summer Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

GMAC Automotive Bank, 6985 Union Park Ctr 4, Midvale, UT 84047, in the amount of \$287.15

Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040-9681, in the amount of \$47.95, and in the amount of \$74.36, and in the amount of \$73.77, and in the amount of \$99.58, and in the amount of \$147.36, and in the amount of \$103.82, and in the amount of \$117.51, and in the amount of \$222.35, and in the amount of \$97.42, and in the amount of \$55.60, and in the amount of \$53.06, and in the amount of \$94.74, and in the amount of \$102.72, and in the amount of \$141.37, and in the amount of \$25.24, and in the amount of \$38.13

David Kaman, 251 Mill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$64.10

Michael Stores, Inc., c/o RASH #607-07-4722, P.O. Box 260888, Plano TX, 75026, in the amount of \$710.22, and in the amount of \$1,100.75

Anthony V. Neclerio, 87 Stonewall Drive, Hamden, CT 06518, in the amount of \$461.00, and in the amount of \$367.07, and in the amount of \$46.18, and in the amount of \$461.97, and in the amount of \$373.42

Nissan Infiniti LT, Box 254648, Sacramento, CA 95865, in the amount of \$59.88

Pamela G. O'Donnell, 30 Virginia Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$35.90

Parnell Brook, LP, 780 E. Main Street, Branford, CT 06405, in the amount of \$55,973.10

Teresa Penna, 26 Sachem Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$5.97

Price Reit Inc., 3333 New Hyde Park Road, Suite 100, New Hyde Park, NY 11042, in the amount of \$2,762.38, and in the amount of \$4,897.20, and in the amount of \$36,307.32

Catherine M. Richetelli, 15 Stanford Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$4.41

Odessa M. Snipes, 194 Quinnipiac Avenue #3A, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$21.65

Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$172.04

Valenti Leasing Co., Inc., 399 North Colony Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, in the amount of \$48.30, and in the amount of \$100.44

VW Credit Leasing LTD, 1401 Franklin Blvd, Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$209.37

Ericka L. Wheeler, 150 Garfield Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$157.30

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to approve the following bond releases/reductions, as recommended by the Inland Wetlands Commission:

DonMar Development, 55 Mill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$40,000.00

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

Ms. McCarty announced that the town will be receiving another STEAP grant of \$250,000 that will be added to the \$350,000 grant we received to expand the Public Works garage. As a result, the sanitation trucks will be housed in this garage and we will no longer have to lease property to house them.

Ms McCarty announced that the library roof is being repaired and should be finished in approximately two weeks.

Ms. McCarty announced that leaf pickup will be starting in early November and will continue into December.

Ms. McCarty also announced that the Economic Development Breakfast will take place on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn and that anyone interested is invited to attend.

Ms. McCarty announced that the town will now have single stream recycling that will include plastics, paper, and aerosols. She noted that increasing recycling will be a win for the environment but also for the taxpayers since the fee to dispose of our trash is \$65, but the recycling fee is \$36.80. Therefore, the more trash we recycle, the more we save. Ms. McCarty thanked Lynn Sadosky, Victor Palma and the Public Works employees for being able to transition so quickly. She noted that the information will be in the newspapers and on local access TV. If anyone has any questions about the new procedures, call Public Works.

Mr. Freda was concerned about paving issues and questioned how the paving was being done and how the payment was being handled. Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works and Victor Palma, Director of Field Operations answered his inquiries. Mr. Freda thanked them for their work and their quick response to issues in town.

The Board entertained comments from the public.

Ann DeMatteo, New Haven Register, asked if it was correct that recycling goes to New Haven and trash goes to Wallingford.

Joseph D'Errico, 50 Corey Road, was concerned that the police outside duty account was rolled into the general fund.

James DiCarlo, 27 Surrey Drive, Police Chief, explained that the money from that account was used to buy equipment for the police cruisers. He stated that he was never told that these special revenue accounts would be swept into the general fund. Ms. McCarty explained that the Board of Finance authorized this and the vote was unanimous. The money had not vanished and was being accounted for in the general fund.

Caren Genovese, 1322 Ridge Road, asked if this was common practice and stated that department heads should be told when there is a new protocol.

Ed Swinkoski, Assistant Director of Finance, explained that 36 special revenue accounts had accumulated for many years and that the proper procedure was to go through the Board of Finance in allocating the funds.

Florence Sinow, 18 Maple Avenue, stated that the department heads should be notified when this happens.

Irene Salman, 27 Drazen Drive, asked Mr. Fontana if he would be willing to debate his opponent. Mr. Fontana stated that it was a political matter and not appropriate to discuss at the Board of Selectmen's meeting. He would discuss the matter after the meeting.

Veronica Kivela, 70 Drazen Drive, asked the selectmen if they would state that they would reject charter revision. Ms. McCarty stated that she would not initiate charter revision. Mr. Freda and Mr. Fontana stated they would not do anything to change the form of government.

Ann Ruocco, 23 Ansonia Drive, stated that this town has always had town meetings after the budget is passed and this should continue to inform the public of expenditures. She felt this information was not thoroughly explained at the Board of Finance meetings where the expenditures are authorized.

Florence Sinow, 18 Maple Avenue, commented that the Annual Town Meeting was held to vote to allocate money for capital items and this should continue.

Pamela Parrella, 25 Trumbull Place, stated that the Annual Budget Meeting should not be the Annual Town Meeting and that the former practice should be continued. Ms. McCarty explained we had a public hearing, an annual budget meeting and a vote was taken at the Referendum which had a higher participation rate than any town meeting that was held after the budget was finalized. We ended the fiscal year with a budget surplus and did not need to appropriate any additional money and therefore another town meeting was not necessary. An opinion was presented by the town attorney that we are complying with state statutes. Why have a town meeting to approve money that has already been spent by the departments and can be covered by money already present in the budget and approved by the Board of Finance. If a town meeting were necessary and the residents voted no when the money was already spent, what would the town do?

Mr. Freda stated that we should have a town meeting before the money is spent in each line item in excess of \$20,000, citing CT State Statute 7-348 and also stated he believed that the annual town meeting after the budget is finalized should be restored.

James Leahy, 12 Regency Drive, explained that we had a balanced budget with some minor adjustments and therefore there was no need for another town meeting. In the past, the budget was not balanced and additional money had to be appropriated. He also agreed that special funds should not be separate but should be in the general fund so that there is accountability.

Richard Monico, 23 Sachem Drive, stated that we have an annual budget meeting in May, but State Statute says that we must have an annual town meeting and the annual budget meeting does not suffice.

Jeffrey Brangi, 5 Beverly Drive, stated that he was concerned that there was no notification about the increase in the sewer use fees. Ms. McCarty explained that the fees are set by the Water Pollution Control Authority and that a public hearing was held after a public notice was published. Mr. Brangi stated he could not attend since it was held the same night as the Board of Finance meeting and that shouldn't happen. Ms. McCarty stated that it wasn't the case since she attended both meetings and they were on different days. She explained that because sewer fees were not increased in past years to sufficiently keep up with the repair and maintenance of the facilities, the increase this year is necessary. We do not want service to the community to be interrupted.

Caren Genovese, 1322 Ridge Road, asked why the town was engaging the services of the Law firm of Robinson & Cole. It was explained that it involved the appeal of the Indian Ridge Project. She also asked if anything can be discussed at the Board of Selectmen's meeting. Ms. McCarty stated that certain topics are inappropriate for this forum. Mr. Freda stated that, in his opinion, anything can be discussed. Veronica Kivela, 70 Drazen Drive, stated that many people do not have the time to attend all meetings of the Board of Finance, Board of Education and Board of Selectmen, so the Board of Selectmen's meeting should be a forum to discuss all town matters.

Carolyn Wright, 100 Warner Road, stated that she would like to go to a live debate between the candidates since she doesn't receive NHTV.

Deborah Ward O'Brien, 337 Kings Highway, stated she was looking for open transparency in government and did not feel she was getting it.

Irene Salman, 27 Drazen Drive, asked why Richard Parrett was not attending the Board of Selectmen's meeting.

John Parese, 25 Tokeneke Drive, town attorney, stated that he attended the evening meetings and the town retainer included attendance at meetings, status meetings with the First Selectman and Boards & Commission meetings. The attorneys are paid \$195/hr for litigation matters. He stated that Mr. Parrett has not asked for any payment for all the work he has done for the town.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. McCarty moved for adjournment at 8:05 p.m.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes